



APS FACES

Alaska's future leaders.



Karen Clement

Colony High School
Class of 2012
Boise State University,
University of Alaska Anchorage
Health Sciences,
Bachelor of Science
Graduated College in
Summer 2016

"I knew my mom would not be able to contribute to my college education on a single parent salary and that I would be responsible for this cost on my own. I pursued APS so I would have the options of attending college in-state. My decision to attend college in Alaska was greatly influenced by the APS. I attended college out-of-state my first semester and even with a WUE scholarship, the cost was incomparable. Since I was paying for college on my own, I had to make the decision of how much debt I wanted to graduate with and what was more worth it. I chose to come back to Alaska to work on my degree and don't regret it."



Aaron Zhao

Service High School
Class of 2012
University of Alaska Anchorage
Computer Science,
Bachelor of Science
Graduated College in
May 2016

"I currently work at GCI as a software developer. I started as an intern at GCI and transferred to full-time after graduation. Because of the APS, I was able to focus on my school work and find the internship. I was also able to spend a lot of time on my studies and pick up tools needed to perform the job I do now at GCI- even though the learning curve is quite high. The APS not only helped me financially but more importantly it encouraged me to do a better job in high school and in college. It made me feel confident about the future."



For more information or
to sign up for emailed APS Updates go to: APS.alaska.gov





The Faces of APS

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Jordyn Block

Alaska Middle College School
Class of 2016
University of Alaska Anchorage
Physical Education,
Bachelor of Science
College Graduation
Expected in 2019

"The APS has certainly made a difference for me and my education! The APS covers the majority of my tuition and without the APS, I probably wouldn't be able to afford taking as many credits as I am (I am currently enrolled in 16 credits, with 7 of those credits being upper-level credits.)"



Anna Evenstad

Eagle River High School
Class of 2011
University of Nevada
Las Vegas,
University of Alaska Anchorage
Hospitality Management,
Bachelor of Arts
Graduated College in 2016

"Without the APS I probably would have moved out-of-state and worked to save money until I gained residency in another state to get in-state tuition. The APS helped me transition into adulthood without mounting debt. It was also a motivator to work hard. In college can be really easy to sleep in and skip class as you get caught up in new found freedom."



Sarah Hall

Glennallen High School
Class of 2012
University of Alaska Anchorage
Marketing and Management,
Bachelor of Business
Administration
Graduated College in 2016

"I pursued the APS scholarship to see how much the cost of in-state school would be compared to out of state. I applied and was accepted to a school in Oregon, but in the end, the Alaska Performance Scholarship allowed me to attend UAA for a fraction of the cost of out of state college, and I graduated in four years. The APS allowed me to attend college in-state and graduate in four years, debt-free."



The Faces of APS

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Sarah Holland

Service High School
Class of 2013

University of Alaska Anchorage

Psychology,
Bachelor of Science

College Graduation Expected
in May 2017

"I initially wanted to take a year off after high school but the APS made me want to go right away and stay in-state for college because I didn't want to waste it. The APS motivated me to get started."



Kelsey Lindahl

Service High School
Class of 2013

University of Alaska Fairbanks

Geological Engineering,
Bachelor of Science

College Graduation Expected
in May 2017

"My decision to attend college at UAF was partly due to receiving the APS. When I was looking at out of state colleges, the tuition rates were ridiculously high, and there were not as many scholarships easily attainable. I finally came to the realization that getting my Bachelor's degree at similar colleges to UAF, but with much higher tuition rates was not really worth it in the long run, especially without as much scholarship help. UAF is a great school and therefore I decided to utilize the APS at UAF and I don't regret that I am walking out of college debt free."



The Faces of APS

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Tong Thao

Colony High School
Class of 2013

University of Alaska
Anchorage, Matanuska-
Susitna College

Biological Sciences,
Mathematics Bachelor of
Science, Biological Sciences
Graduated College in 2016

"As a first generation college student in addition to being an English as a Second Language student, the guidelines of the APS provided me a "Roadmap" to follow on my journey through college. Without the APS and encouragement from my family and friends, I would not have attended college in Alaska or at all."



Shelly Thao

Colony High School
Class of 2014

Alaska Career College,
University of Alaska
Anchorage, Mat-Su College

Biochemistry,
Bachelor of Science
College Graduation Expected
in 2019

"While I was in high school, my older brother Tong told me about this scholarship. I took action to meet the requirements of the APS, such as getting a good GPA, SAT/ACT cut scores. I took SATs and ACTs my junior and senior year to get the best scores possible. I would have liked going out-of-state for college, but I realized that a degree is a degree wherever you go. The APS is keeping me out of debt and I'm very grateful for that."